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SENATE

REPORT
99-240

AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES BY COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE

FEBRUARY 27 (legislative day, FEBRUARY 24), 1986.—Ordered to be printed

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DEPOSITORY 376

Mr. MATHIAS, from the Committee on Rules and Administration, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. Res. 353]

The Committee on Rules and Administration, having considered an original resolution (S. Res. 353) in lieu of Senate Resolution 311, Senate Resolution 324, Senate Resolution 323, Senate Resolution 327, Senate Resolution 321, Senate Resolution 326, Senate Resolution 301, Senate Resolution 308, Senate Resolution 325, Senate Resolution 302, Senate Resolution 313, Senate Resolution 306, Senate Resolution 300, Senate Resolution 309, Senate Resolution 315, Senate Resolution 331, Senate Resolution 310, Senate Resolution 322, and Senate Resolution 314, reports favorably thereon and recommends that the resolution be agreed to.

The Committee on Rules and Administration, to which was referred the following Senate Resolutions: 311, 324, 323, 327, 321, 326, 301, 308, 325, 302, 313, 306, 300, 309, 315, 331, 310, 322, and 314, reports, in lieu thereof, an original resolution, incorporating the provisions of the foregoing resolutions and recommends that the resolution be agreed to.

BACKGROUND

A memorandum, dated February 19, 1986, from Senator Mathias and Senator Ford, addressed to Senate members of the Rules Committee regarding the proposed funding level for the Omnibus Committee Funding Resolution, 1986, and various options to achieve the sequestration of funds mandated by the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act (Gramm-Rudman-Hollings) follows:

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41.1/5:

FEBRUARY 19, 1986.

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Committee on Rules and Administration.
From: Senator Mathias and Senator Ford.
Re: The 1986 Omnibus Committee Funding Resolution.

Issues for the February 27, 1986 Committee markup

The Rules Committee will consider two issues at its meeting on Thursday, February 27, 1986: the sequestration of fiscal year 1986 "Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations" (EI&I) appropriations (4.3 percent, or $2,195,000) required under the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act (Gramm-Rudman-Hollings) and committee budget requests for the funding year beginning March 1, 1986.

Background

The EI&I appropriation account is funded by fiscal year, from October through September, and covers the expenses of all the Standing, Select, and Special Committees of the Senate, including staff salaries and Senate contributions to the various employee benefit programs. (The Policy and Joint Committees are funded in separate appropriation accounts.)

Committee funding, except that for the Select Committee on Ethics which has permanent authorization to draw such sums as may be necessary, is authorized from March through February, pursuant to a Resolution reported by the Rules Committee and agreed to by the Senate.

Because the expenditures for Ethics Committee (estimated at $400,000 for fiscal year 1986) and the employee benefit contributions (approximately $4.2 million) are not capped, it would be virtually impossible for the Rules Committee to adjust these activities to comply with Gramm-Rudman-Hollings.

Recommended options

As a starting point for your consideration, we propose that the aggregate level of funding in the 1986 Omnibus Committee Funding Resolution be the same as the total for 1985. Upon that base, and with the committee funding authorizations (March through February) spanning fiscal years, there are several different ways the sequestration can be accommodated:

1. Sequester the entire $2,195,000 from the funding authorization which expires at the end of February 1986

—There are sufficient funds to do this. Committees are reporting unobligated balances of about $2.5 million for the current funding authorization. The Disbursing Office projects an unspent balance of about $4 million.

—The overall authorization in S. Res. 85 would be reduced and the individual committee authorizations, when applicable, would be adjusted accordingly.

—The funding beginning March 1, 1986, would be left at last year's level. Should another sequestration occur in October, committees would be in better shape to absorb the reduction.

2. Sequester a proportionate share of the $2,195,000 from the 1985 and the 1986 Omnibus Committee Funding Resolutions

—5/12 (about $915,000), representing the 5 month overlap of the beginning of Fiscal Year 1986 and the end of the current funding authorization, would be reduced from the unobligated balances; 7/12 ($1,280,000) would have to come from the new funding authorization.
—Should another sequestration occur in October, committees would have to absorb a second reduction in the new funding authorization.

3. Sequester the entire $2,195,000 from the 1986 Omnibus Committee Funding Resolution

—This action would leave untouched the unobligated balances from the current funding authorization.
—The magnitude of this initial cut would obviously leave the committees in worse shape to absorb a second reduction in October.

EXPLANATION OF COMMITTEE ACTION

The Committee on Rules and Administration, in reporting an original measure incorporating the provisions of individual resolutions authorizing expenditures for Senate committees, recommends a total funding level for the standing committees of the Senate, the Special Committee on Aging, the Select Committee on Intelligence, and the Select Committee on Indian Affairs of $43,597,366 for the period March 1, 1986, through February 28, 1987. The committee recommends further that the amounts for each committee be as follows:

Section and committee:	*Amount*
3. Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	$1,263,379
4. Appropriations	3,999,860
5. Armed Services	2,097,190
6. Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	1,613,364
7. Budget	2,873,857
8. Commerce, Science and Transportation	3,217,690
9. Energy and Natural Resources	2,329,322
10. Environment and Public Works	2,267,021
11. Finance	2,153,790
12. Foreign Relations	2,365,019
13. Governmental Affairs	4,313,488
14. Judiciary	4,125,039
15. Labor and Human Resources	4,326,021
16. Rules and Administration	1,194,353
17. Small Business	899,782
18. Veterans' Affairs	861,749
19. Aging (Special)	1,041,514
20. Intelligence (Select)	1,864,131
21. Indian Affairs (Select)	799,797
Grand total	43,597,366

The Rules Committee held three days of hearings, February 3, 4, and 5, 1986, with each committee chairman and ranking minority member presenting their committee plans for oversight and legislative review activities for the coming year.

On February 27, 1986, the Rules Committee held a markup session and took the following action:

The Committee agreed, by voice vote, to a motion by Senator Ford on a method to comply with the fiscal year 1986 sequestration mandated by the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act (Public Law 99–177). The 4.3 percent reduction is to be prorated between the committee fiscal year ending February 28, 1986, and the committee fiscal year beginning March 1, 1986.

The Committee also agreed, on a rollcall vote, to Senator Stevens' motion to hold committee authorizations at the same level as last year, with each committee's budget being reduced in accordance with the Committee's decision regarding sequestration.

The Committee ordered the resolution updated by a rollcall vote of 10–0.

PRINTING, BINDING, AND DETAILED GPO PRINTERS

Senate committees and other Senate offices were able to realize a reduction of $2,513,608 during 1985 for expenses for printing and binding and for detailed printers as reflected in the following table:

SENATE COSTS FOR PRINTING AND BINDING AND FOR DETAILED PRINTERS, 1984–85

Committees	Printing and binding			Detailed printers		
	1984	1985	Change	1984	1985	Change
Agriculture	335,157	309,125	(26,032)	47,814	51,072	3,258
Appropriations	747,898	539,556	(208,342)	193,730	203,200	9,470
Armed Services	678,802	399,765	(279,037)	57,509	49,568	(7,941)
Banking	249,388	286,419	37,031	40,630	39,600	(1,030)
Budget	137,073	176,671	39,598	103,938	102,680	(1,258)
Commerce	620,991	451,874	(169,117)	28,136	4,284	(23,852)
Energy	734,251	548,585	(185,666)	62,616	24,990	(37,626)
Environment	429,067	281,660	(147,407)	704	0	(704)
Finance	681,343	485,053	(196,290)	93,122	92,802	(320)
Foreign Relations	771,067	406,106	(364,961)	74,099	52,770	(21,329)
Governmental Affairs	556,701	371,165	(185,536)	136,391	107,884	(28,547)
Judiciary	692,223	688,900	(3,323)	244,695	235,342	(9,353)
Labor	565,172	355,203	(209,969)	45,308	38,278	(7,030)
Rules	142,369	49,228	(93,141)	1,408	0	(1,408)
Sm... ...siness	168,442	151,499	(16,943)	35,376	37,806	2,430
Veterans' Affairs	101,676	72,850	(28,826)	38,722	45,184	6,462
Aging	183,063	128,717	(54,346)	62,240	44,137	(18,103)
Ethics	0	25,481	25,481	0	0	0
Indian Affairs	246,366	137,178	(109,188)	41,058	41,820	762
Intelligence	32,738	17,057	(15,681)	37,812	38,192	380
JEC	663,926	407,080	(256,846)	128,930	85,584	(43,346)
JCP	118,603	89,667	(28,936)	143,745	286,699	142,954
Total	8,856,316	6,378,839	(2,477,477)	1,617,993	1,581,852	(36,131)

Source: U.S. Senate, Committee on Rules and Administration

COMMITTEE ROLLCALL VOTES

In compliance with paragraph 7 (b) and (c) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the record of the rollcall vote in the Committee on Rules and Administration during its consideration of an original resolution to authorize funding for committees of the Senate is as follows: A motion proposed by Senator Stevens to hold committee authorizations at the same level as the 1985 fiscal year was agreed to, by a rollcall vote: yeas, 8; nays, 2.

YEAS	NAYS
Mr. Mathias	Mr. Warner
Mr. Hatfield	Mr. Gore
Mr. McClure	
Mr. Helms	
Mr. Stevens	
Mr. Ford	
Mr. DeConcini	
Mr. Simon	

A motion by Senator McClure to report the resolution favorably was agreed to by a rollcall vote of 10 yeas; 0 nays.

YEAS	NAYS
Mr. Mathias	0
Mr. Hatfield	
Mr. McClure	
Mr. Helms	
Mr. Warner	
Mr. Stevens	
Mr. Ford	
Mr. Pell	
Mr. Simon	
Mr. Gore	

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